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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Chief, CIA/PID (NPIC)

TCS 1068/63-KH
M/EB 28/63
DATE: 28 January 1963
Copy 1 of 3

FROM : Chief, PID/MEB

SUBJECT: Comments on Requests for Photographic Materials

1. During the past year a great deal of coordination and cooperation has been set up between the ORR and OSI analyst and the PI's in PID/MEB. As a result of this close coordination many analysts in the DDI area have been exposed to photography for the first time. When the scale of the photography changed from the T-material to the KH-material, a new approach to reporting had to be discussed with the DDI analysts. Missile and electronic facilities that could once be described in detail on the T-material could only be generally described as such on the KH-material, however, more specific details became possible as repetitive coverage was obtained and collection systems improved. Because of the scale of this new material a few analysts indicated their desire to study the material in order to better formulate requirements sent to PID. The DDI analysts were shown stereograms, enlargements, positive transparencies and stereo-projection techniques that aided the PI in his work. Due to the crowded conditions in the Steuart Building many stereograms and contact film positives were sent to the Langley Building for their study. The majority of the analysts, however, still came to the Steuart Building where they would review, with the aid of the PI analyst, the latest material and then return to prepare a requirement. However, it has now become common practice for them to consistently request various contact positive frames of KH and even T material for further study. To date 1,330 contact positive transparencies, 350 print enlargements and 90 vu-graphs have been sent to ORR and OSI with the bulk of the material (at least 3/4) being sent to OSI. Personnel of the branch have instructed various OSI personnel on how to cut and mount the material for stereo viewing.

2. At the present time only four or five analysts have been requesting the bulk of this material but the requests are coming so fast that they are in effect duplicating M/EB's files. If other analysts start requesting the material it will put an additional burden on Branch personnel who must prepare the photo requisitions.

3. In order to prepare a photo requisition the PI must do the following. Order the pertinent cans of film from the files, put it on a light table and scan for the installation requested, plot the x and y coordinates and then fill out the photo requisition. On a routine basis this may take several hours to prepare each request. This is to say nothing about the photo processing time and effort in the laboratory, quite possibly at the expense of photo orders related to normal NPIC projects.

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4. From past experience it is more efficient for the DDI analyst to come over to the PI shop and request to view various stereograms, prints and enlargements. An example of how things can get out of hand is described as follows. An ORR analyst requested material which covered the Shuang-Cheng-Tzu missile test range. It was thought that the material would be scanned and a requirement would be forthcoming; however, instead, the analyst performed his own photo analysis and put out a report. His PI analysis was incorrect (Enclosure 5, see pp. 8-9) and many calls were received asking if we had changed our original interpretation. If we continue to send large quantities of material to the analysts, it is natural that they will do more and more of their own PI analysis and we will become more and more a reproduction facility.

5. Of particular concern is a paper prepared by the AD/RR for the DD(I) (Enclosure 6) stating "We have confirmed from recent KEYHOLE photography, etc., etc" which is at variance with the PID position as shown in the attached MEB memo 301/62.

25X1 6. A great number of contact positive transparencies have been forwarded to [redacted] in California for their use. Since they were so far removed from the Washington area, it was deemed appropriate to fulfill these requests. On subsequent orders from [redacted] the OSI personnel who request the material are now asking for two copies of each positive. One copy is sent to 25X1 [redacted] and the other, they keep for their own file. The original concept was 25X1 only to provide [redacted] with this material and not OSI since they could easily view this material at PID with the assistance of qualified PI's.

7. It is thus suggested that steps be taken to curtail the excessive distribution of material except on a must have basis.

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